

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, as amended.

By this amendment, the currently pending claims have been cancelled in favor of new claims 51-68.

Without concession as to the propriety of the outstanding rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are fully supported by the specification, and are patentably distinguishable from the references of record.

More specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Burok nor the User's Guide from Microsoft Project for Windows 95 and Windows 3.1 teach, suggest, or disclose the specific combination of features as outlined in the independent claims.

For example, new Independent claim 51 recites receiving one or more work items to be assigned to a delta queue, selecting, by a scheduler, a calendar to be associated with one of the one or more work items, the calendar used for a real-time to business-time or business-time to real-time conversion, and wherein the calendar has an associated granularity, creating an index into a business-time to real-time table and inserting, by the scheduler, at the head of the delta queue, and before the work item, an appropriate off-time to account for a non-business-time, wherein work items in the delta queue are thus delayed by the appropriate amount of off-time corresponding non-business time.

Support for this claim can at least be found in paragraphs 8, 9, 11, and 27-31 of the specification.

In that the specific combination of features as recited in the independent claims is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the relied upon references, Applicants respectfully submit the independent claims are clearly patentably distinguishable therefrom. The claims that depend therefrom are further distinguishable at least based on the above and the additional feature(s) recited therein.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the application is condition for allowance and respectfully request the issuance of a notice of allowance.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account number 19-1970 any fees under 37 CFR § 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby petitioned.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

Date: 12 Nov '07

By: _____

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Jason H. Vick
Reg. No. 45,285
1560 Broadway, Suite 1200
Denver, Colorado 80202
Telephone: 303-863-9700